

17: 165. 1952 (December). (Basynym cited as *Alsine tennesseensis* Small, Fl. S.E. U.S. pp. 422, 1330, 1903. Small's combinaton was however based on *A. pubera tennesseensis* Mohr, the type of which according to Weatherby belongs to a form of var. *pubera*. Small mistakenly applied the name to var. *silvatica*, as did Strausbaugh and Core.) I believe that this plant is properly treated as a species distinct from, although closely related to, *S. pubera*. But neither of the names it has received in that rank can be retained. It seems altogether fitting to associate with it the name of the man who as botanist, editor, and administrator has done so much for Appalachian and Southeastern botany.

I wish to thank Dr. G. B. Van Schaack of the Missouri Botanical Garden for confirming the validity of *Stellaria sylvatica* (Maxim.) Maxim. ex Regel. — Lloyd H. Shinnners.

RANUNCULUS TRACHYCARPUS (RANUNCULACEAE) IN SOUTH-CENTRAL LOUISIANA: NEW TO NORTH AMERICA. — The occurrence of the Mediterranean *Ranunculus trilobus* Desf. in Pointe Coupee Parish, Louisiana, was reported in 1960 (S.W. Nat. 5: 170). On seeing quite similar plants in April, 1962, in nearby Avoyelles Parish, I assumed that they represented a range extension for the new introduction. But on comparison of herbarium specimens they proved to be quite different, having decidedly spiny instead of merely papillose-roughened achenes, and the larger leaves were not pinnately divided. In the key in Lyman Benson's "A Treatise of the North American Ranunculi" (Amer. Midl. Nat. 40: 1—261, 1948: see especially p. 110) they ran to *R. muricatus* L. which they obviously were not, having larger petals and smaller achenes, more or less pilose stems, leaves, and sepals, and long-pedicelled flowers. They could not be determined with any of the recent standard North American or European floras, but were finally identified as *R. trachycarpus* Fisch. & Mey. in George E. Post's *Flora of Syria, Palestine and Sinai* (2nd ed., by John Edward Dinsmore) 1: 15—16, 1932, and checked in Edmond Boissier's *Flora Orientalis* 1: 55—56, 1867. There was a single specimen so named in the SMU Herbarium, from Sharon Plain, Kabbara Marshes, Israel, A. Grizi s.n., 24 May 1954. This consists of two mowed plants which had put up new branches with smaller, more divided leaves than those of the Louisiana specimens, and have more densely spiny achenes, but they evidently belong to the same species, which is described as a variable one. *Ranunculus trachycarpus* Fisch. & Mey. may therefore be recorded from LOUISIANA, Avoyelles Parish: 7.2 miles southeast of Bunkie, Shinnners 29,519, 18 April 1962 (SMU). "Roadside ditch, wet silty clay. Petals yellow. Locally abundant from Bunkie to here."

In reporting *R. trilobus*, I said that the manner of introduction was entirely unknown. In the case of *R. trachycarpus* there is a clue from some associated weeds: Persian clover (*Trifolium resupinatum*) and

crimson clover (*T. incarnatum*), both of which are widely planted on road shoulders almost throughout Louisiana and which maintain themselves in such habitats. *T. resupinatum* is the more persistent of the two, and shows more tendency to spread, especially to ditches or along ditch banks. Both clovers are native to the Mediterranean region. If commercial seed imported from that area had been used for some of the road-shoulder plantings, it may have been the vehicle for the transport of the two species of *Ranunculus*. — Lloyd H. Shinnars.

WAREA AURICULATA INSTEAD OF W. AMPLEXIFOLIA OF SMALL (CRUCIFERAE). — In his *Manual of the Southeastern Flora* (pp. 573—574, 1933), Small uses the name *Warea amplexifolia* (Nuttall) Small for a plant with auricled-clasping upper leaves. The combination is nomenclaturally impossible, since it is identical with one already made by Nuttall himself. Small supposed that Nuttall had had a mixture, part of his material being *W. sessilifolia* Nash. In such case he ought to have written *W. amplexifolia* (Nuttall) Nuttall emed. Small. Payson (Ann. Mo. Bot. Gard. 9: 312—312, 1922) also believed that Nuttall had had a mixture, agreeing with Small except for the author-citation. Neither author checked Nuttall's type material, the belief that it was mixed resting only on two pieces of circumstantial evidence. The epithet *amplexifolia* is inappropriate for a plant with merely sessile or barely clasping upper leaves, although this is what was illustrated by Nuttall himself in transferring *Stanleya* ? *amplexifolia* to *Warea*. In his first publication, under *Stanleya*, he gave "East Florida" as the place of origin, but in the second this becomes "West Florida." Neither item can be accepted as proving that Nuttall had a mixture. In evaluating the epithet *amplexifolia* it has mistakenly been assumed that the question is which of two Florida plants it fits better. This is the wrong frame of reference. Nuttall was thinking in terms of a Florida plant and the only previously described *Stanleya*, *S. pinnatifida* (*S. pinnata*), which has petioled leaves, and the epithet *amplexifolia* is therefore to be taken as relative to a petioled-leaved condition. This is not so inappropriate for *Warea sessilifolia* with sessile to slightly clasping upper leaves; furthermore the lower leaves of this species may be distinctly clasping. The reference to "West Florida" in the second publication dealing with Nuttall's species may have been merely a slip of the pen on his part, or it may have been a deliberate correction or clarification of the very vague older usage of the terms "East Florida" (primarily northeastern as now delimited, but sometimes loosely applied to more than half of northern Florida) and "West Florida" (originally meaning only the Pensacola area, but at times extended to include the entire panhandle section). Florida had then been only recently added to the United States, and these terms were both subject to change. Hence